

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-05 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 /059 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3849

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 17414

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, WB, GW, US, UK, FR

SUBJECT: VISIT OF SYG AND NATO AMBASSADORS TO BERLIN

REF: (A) USNATO 5747, (B) BONN 17219, (C) STATE 248444

1. WITH THE CLOCK RUNNING OUT, THE HANDLING OF THE
ISSUE OF INCLUDING SYG LUNS IN THE OCTOBER 26 VISIT TO
BERLIN CONTINUES TO BE JINXED BY CONFUSION AND MISUNDER-
STANDING.

2. AS OF C.O.B. OCTOBER 22 BRITISH STILL HAD NOT
RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS. FRG PLACED TRIP ON AGENDA FOR
OCTOBER 23 AFTERNOON BONN GROUP MEETING, BUT ONLY TO
ASK WHETHER THERE WERE ANY LATE VIEWS. US REP BROKE
ENSUING SILENCE BY REPORTING INSTRUCTIONS FROM PARAS 1A
AND B AND PARA 2 OF REF C. LACKING ANY INDICATION OF
UK VIEWS OR OF DEPARTMENT'S REACTION TO IDEA OF A
UNILATERAL US INVITATION TO LUNS, WE DID NOT SPELL OUT
THE ALTERNATIVES IN PARA 1C (WHICH AS
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PREVIOUSLY REPORTED WE HAD ALREADY DISCUSSED WITH

BRITISH AND FRENCH). UK REP THEN NOTED A REPORT FROM NATO THAT LUNS HAD SAID HE WOULD NOT BE ACCOMPANYING THE PERMREPS WHO HAD ACCEPTED THE FRG INVITATION, SAID THAT IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES HE HAD NO COMMENTS ON THE VISIT ITSELF, AND ADDED THAT, ON THE POINT OF PRINCIPLE, LONDON HAD NOTED WITH SATISFACTION THE PERSONAL EXPRESSION OF REGRET BY THE FRG SENIOR BONN GROUP REP THAT THE MATTER HAD BEEN HANDLED AS IT WAS.

3. ONLY IN TRIPARTITE MEETING FOLLOWING FULL BONN GROUP MEETING DID WE LEARN THAT BRITISH HAD FINALLY RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS MORNING OF OCTOBER 23 WHICH WOULD HAVE PERMITTED UK COMMANDANT TO INVITE LUNS. READING THOSE IN CONJUNCTION WITH REPORT THAT LUNS DID NOT WISH TO GO, HOWEVER, UK REP HAD CONCLUDED THERE WAS NOTHING TO BE DONE NOW BUT TO SORT OUT QUESTION NEXT WEEK OF A SPECIFIC INVITATION FROM THE THREE ALLIES FOR A LATER DATE.

4. THESE ARE THE POSITIONS OF THE ALLIED BONN GROUP REPS AS THEY NOW STAND:

-- WE HAVE SAID IT WOULD STILL BE PREFERABLE TO GO THROUGH WITH AN ALLIED INVITATION TO LUNS EVEN AT THE ELEVENTH HOUR, BOTH BECAUSE IT MIGHT ASSUAGE HIS FEELINGS AND BECAUSE HIS ACCOMPANIMENT OF AMBASSADORS ON AN INFORMAL VISIT OF THIS NATURE WOULD BE LESS LIKELY TO INVITE SOVIET PROTESTS THAN A SEPARATE OFFICIAL VISIT FOR LUNS ALONE.

-- THE UK REP BELIEVES (A) LUNS WAS SERIOUS IN SAYING HE DOESN'T WISH TO GO AND (B) THE GERMANS WOULD BE IRRITATED IF WE WERE TO UNDERCUT KRAPF IN THIS

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MANNER. THE UK REP WOULD OBJECT STRONGLY TO A UNILATERAL US INVITATION BECAUSE IT WOULD HIGHLIGHT ALLIED DIFFERENCES, AND HE WOULD AGREE TO RECOMMENDING THAT THE UK COMMANDANT ISSUE THE INVITATION ONLY AFTER AIRING THE QUESTION FULLY IN THE BONN GROUP TO BE CERTAIN THE GERMANS WOULD PREFER SUCH A SOLUTION.

-- THE FRENCH REP BELIEVES THE BEST COURSE AT THIS POINT IS FOR THE US, UK, AND FRENCH AMBASSADORS TO SEE LUNS JOINTLY TO EXPRESS REGRET AT THE MISUNDERSTANDING, STATE THERE IS CERTAINLY NO ALLIED OBJECTION TO HIS VISITING BERLIN, AND INVITE HIM TO DO SO AT A CONVENIENT LATER TIME.

5. COMMENT: THERE REMAINS THE POSSIBILITY FOR US TO CALL A BONN GROUP MEETING FOR THE MORNING OF OCTOBER 24 TO TRY TO PRODUCE AGREEMENT THAT THE BRITISH (CHAIRMAN) COMMANDANT SHOULD, WITH GERMAN BLESSINGS, INVITE LUNS
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TO COME ALONG ON THE 26TH. SUCH AN INVITATION COULD REACH LUNS AT THE EARLIEST FRIDAY AFTERNOON, LESS THAN 48 HOURS BEFORE THE TRIP. MOREOVER, THE FRG IS AWARE OF THE SENSITIVITY OF THE WHOLE AFFAIR FROM THE STAND-POINT OF SOVIET ATTENTION TO BERLIN, AND WE HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT SENIOR FONOFF OFFICIALS ARE ANNOYED MOST OF ALL WITH KRAPF FOR HAVING TAKEN THIS INITIATIVE WITHOUT AUTHORITY AS HIS FAREWELL GESTURE TO HIS NATO COLLEAGUES. WE ARE BY NO MEANS CERTAIN HOW THEY WILL IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS COME OUT ON THE QUESTION OF THE OVER-ALL ADVISABILITY OF GOING AHEAD WITH AN INVITATION TO LUNS.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: IF THE DEPARTMENT WISHES US TO
PROCEED WITH THIS ONE LAST TRY TO REACH AGREEMENT,
INSTRUCTIONS SHOULD REACH US BY OPENING OF BUSINESS
OCTOBER 24.
HILLENBRAND

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